



WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR FOX VALLEY WISCONSIN COUNTIES

February 2004

Unadjusted Unemployment Rate for the Fox Valley Area Down From Last January

January's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for the Fox Valley Workforce Delivery Area was 5.7 percent. Although this was an increase of 1.7 of a percentage point from December, comparing it with last January when the economy was in about the same point in the region's seasonal economic cycle shows an improvement of 0.7 of a percentage point. At that time the unemployment rate for the region was at 6.4 percent.

Based on the seasonality of the local economy, it is typical for the unemployment rate to rise between December and January. This is an effect of both the weather and of course the seasonal hiring and release of workers in the retail sector for the Christmas shopping season and all of the jobs that directly and indirectly related to that period.

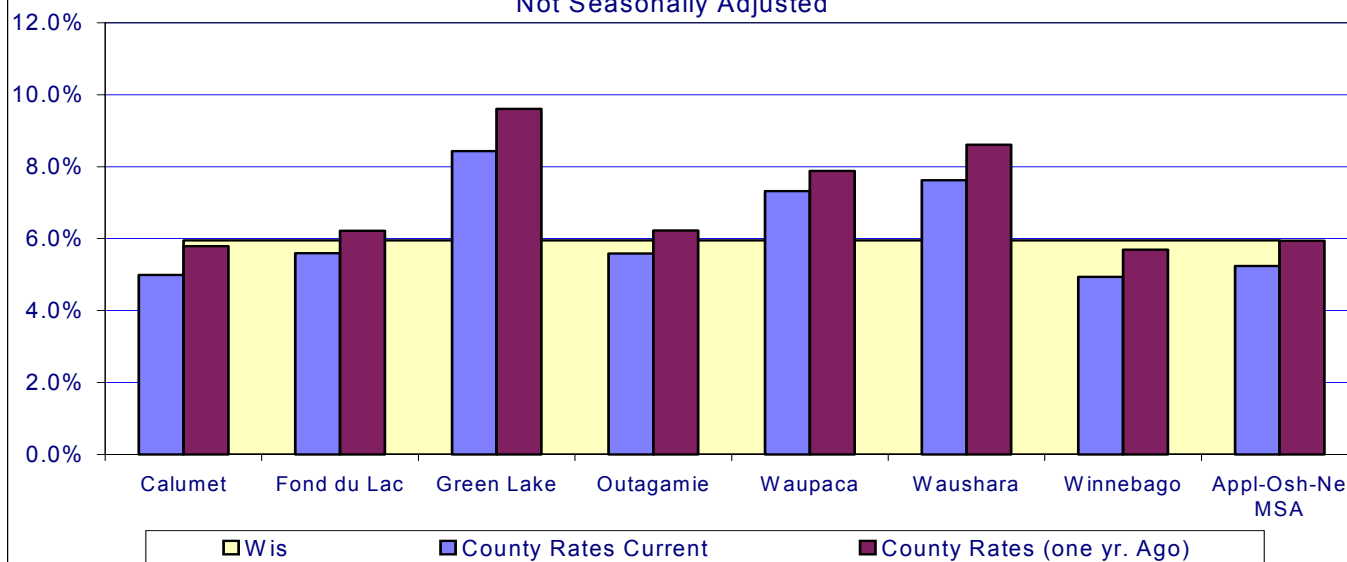
All of the counties in the region experienced an increase in their unemployment rates in January. The increase for the region's non MSA counties was slightly higher at 1.4 of a percentage point than the increase for the three MSA counties which rose 1.0 of a percentage point.

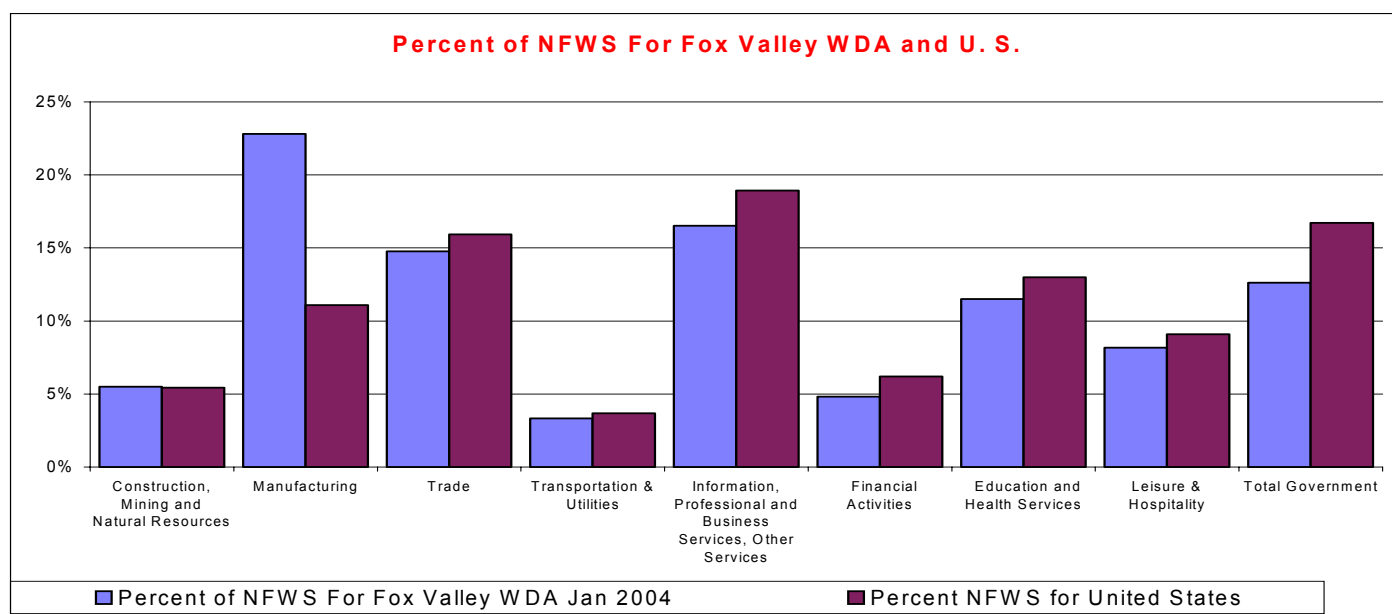
The increases ranged between a low of 1.0 percentage point for Fond du Lac County to a high 1.9 of a percentage point in Green Lake County. Green Lake County also had the highest rate in the region at 8.4 percent, while the Appleton/Oshkosh/Neenah MSA had the lowest at 4.5 percent. Typically, the unemployment rate in the region climbs to its highest annual level of the year during January and February and begins to decline after that.

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)				
	Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA	Wisconsin	United States	
			(000s)	
December-2003				
Civilian Labor Force	241,000	3,093,700	146,878	
Employment	229,900	2,934,300	138,479	
Unemployment	11,100	159,300	8,398	
Unemployment rate	4.6%	5.2%	5.7%	
November-2003 Change				
Civilian Labor Force	1,100	4,600	(309)	
Employment	300	(1,100)	(54)	
Unemployment	800	5,500	(255)	
Unemployment rate	0.3%	0.2%	-0.2%	
December-2002 Change				
Civilian Labor Force	5,200	65,800	1,721	
Employment	6,600	79,800	2,020	
Unemployment	(1,400)	(14,100)	(300)	
Unemployment rate	-0.7%	-0.5%	-0.3%	

Note: All estimates are round and preliminary, based on place of residence.

Fox Valley County Unemployment Rates Not Seasonally Adjusted





The number of workers claiming to be employed in January declined by 1,600 from December. While the number of employed dropped, the number in the region's labor force increased 2,400. This resulted in an increase of 4,000 additional unemployed in the region. The employment picture looks much brighter when viewing labor force and employment change over a twelve month period. The number of employed has increased by 4,300 over the last year, while the number entering the labor force increased 2,000.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment (NFWS) was down 6,900 to 278,300 jobs during January. The majority of these jobs have been in the service producing sector. Within the service sector the largest decreases were in the trade industry and in government.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted rate for the Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA decreased 0.3 of a percentage point to 4.5 percent. The rate was 0.7 of a percentage point below one year ago. Rates for other MSA's around the state were: Green Bay, 4.5 percent; Sheboygan, 4.4 percent; Milwaukee, 5.9 percent and Madison, 2.5 percent. The nation's unemployment rate was 5.6 percent, and Wisconsin's was 5.0 percent.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at: <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

U.S. Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

National (U.S. City Avg.) 1982-84 = 100				Class B/C-North Central States (1996 - 100) (Size 50,000-1,500,000)			Class D-North Central States (1996 - 100) (Size Less than 50,000)		
	Jan-04	Dec-03	Jan-03	Jan-04	Dec-03	Jan-03	Jan-04	Dec-03	Jan-03
Item	Index	Index	% Change Previous Month	Index	Index	% Change Previous Month	Index	Index	% Change Previous Month
All Items	185.2	184.3	1.9%	114.1	113.3	1.9%	171.8	171.5	0.6%
Food & Beverage	184.3	184.1	3.5%	114.2	113.7	3.2%	174.4	175.8	3.4%
Housing	186.3	185.1	2.2%	112.6	112.0	1.9%	162.8	161.7	0.1%
Apparel & Upkeep	115.8	119.0	-1.9%	87.8	89.6	-1.7%	130.7	138.5	-4.3%
Transportation	157.0	154.7	1.0%	112.8	110.3	1.5%	144.4	142.4	-0.8%
Gasoline (all types)	136.1	127.2	8.3%	143.9	128.6	9.8%	125.6	114.7	8.7%
Medical Care	303.6	302.1	3.8%	130.9	129.2	6.2%	293.0	291.2	4.3%
Energy	137.4	131.8	7.8%	134.3	125.4	8.8%	126.0	119.7	8.0%

(Not seasonally Adjusted)

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The labor surplus designation is used by federal procurement offices in targeting contracts into areas of high unemployment. The following areas in Wisconsin received designation as labor surplus areas for the period October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004:

During periods of high national unemployment, the 20 percent ratio is disregarded and an area is classified as a labor surplus area if its unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years was ten percent or more. This ten percent ceiling concept comes into operation whenever the two year average unemployment rate for all states was 8.3 percent or above (i.e., 8.3 percent times the 1.20 ratio equals ten percent). Similarly, a "floor" concept of six percent is used during periods of low national unemployment

for an area to be classified as a labor surplus area. The six percent "floor" comes into effect whenever the average unemployment rate for all states during the two-year reference period was five percent or less.

Authorization for the labor surplus lists falls under Defense Manpower Policy No. 4, Executive Orders 12073 and 10582, and Public Law 96-302. The basic purpose of the program is to guide a portion of the government's procurement dollars into areas of severe economic need, which have been defined as areas of high unemployment. Employers located in an eligible area can receive preference in bidding on federal contracts.

<http://www.uses.doleta.gov/lisa.asp>

Labor Surplus Areas

October 01, 2003 Through September 30, 2004

Wisconsin

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas

Ashland County
Bayfield County
Beloit City
Balance Of Chippewa County
Clark County
Florence County
Forest County
Green Bay City
Iron County
Janesville City
Juneau County
Kenosha City
Langlade County
Manitowoc City
Marinette County
Marquette County
Menominee County
Milwaukee City
Oconto County
Polk County
Price County
Racine City
Rusk County
Washburn County

Civil Jurisdictions Included

Ashland County
Bayfield County
Beloit City In Rock County
Chippewa County Less Eau Claire City
Clark County
Florence County
Forest County
Green Bay City In Brown County
Iron County
Janesville City In Rock County
Juneau County
Kenosha City In Kenosha County
Langlade County
Manitowoc City In Manitowoc County
Marinette County
Marquette County
Menominee County
Milwaukee City In Milwaukee County
Oconto County
Polk County
Price County
Racine City In Racine County
Rusk County
Washburn County

Wisconsin Fox Valley Workforce Development Area

January 2004	App/Osh/Ne enah	Fond du Lac	Green Lake	Waupaca	Waushara	Fox Valley WDA	Fox Valley Non MSA's	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force*	234,900	56,600	10,500	27,900	12,300	342,200	107,300	3,086,000
Employed	222,600	53,400	9,700	25,900	11,400	322,900	100,400	2,902,300
Unemployed	12,300	3,200	900	2,000	900	19,300	7,000	183,700
Unemployment rate(%)	5.2%	5.6%	8.4%	7.3%	7.6%	5.7%	6.5%	6.0%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	4.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.0%
Total Nonfarm	198,800	46,000	7,000	20,700	5,900	278,300	79,500	2,741,100
Total Private	176,000	40,300	5,700	16,700	4,400	243,200	67,200	2,340,600
Goods Producing	57,600	12,900	1,600	5,600	1,100	78,700	21,100	613,600
Service Producing	141,200	33,100	5,400	15,100	4,800	199,600	58,400	2,127,500
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	11,500	2,500	300	700	300	15,300	3,800	116,100
Manufacturing	46,100	10,400	1,200	4,900	800	63,400	17,300	497,500
Trade	29,300	7,000	900	3,100	800	41,100	11,800	439,700
Transportation & Utilities	7,000	1,300	250	500	200	9,300	2,300	327,100
Financial Activities	10,400	1,800	280	700	200	13,400	3,000	159,800
Education and Health Services	21,500	6,100	1,100	2,600	700	32,000	10,500	371,700
Leisure & Hospitality	15,000	4,300	700	2,000	800	22,800	7,800	233,500
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	35,200	6,900	1,000	2,300	600	45,900	10,700	949,400
Total Government	22,800	5,700	1,300	4,000	1,500	35,100	12,300	400,500
Federal	1,100	700	70	100	100	2,100	1,000	29,500
State	4,600	4,240	20	800	400	6,500	1,900	95,300
Local	17,100	4,700	1,200	3,000	1,000	27,000	9,900	275,700
Change from one month ago December 2003								
Civilian Labor Force*	1,900	-100	0	500	100	2,400	500	20,900
Employed	-700	-700	-100	0	-100	-1,600	-900	-13,000
Unemployed	2,500	600	200	500	200	4,000	1,500	33,900
Unemployment rate(%)	1.0%	1.0%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.2%	1.4%	1.1%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.4%
Total Nonfarm	-4,400	-1,500	-280	-500	-200	-6,900	-2,500	-52,800
Total Private	-3,400	-1,300	-200	-300	-100	-5,300	-1,900	-35,400
Goods Producing	-900	-400	-60	-100	0	-1,500	-600	-13,300
Service Producing	-3,500	-1,100	-220	-300	-200	-5,400	-1,900	-39,500
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-1,000	-300	-50	-100	0	-1,500	-500	-9,400
Manufacturing	100	-100	0	0	0	0	-100	-3,900
Trade	-16,700	-300	-50	-100	0	-17,200	-500	-61,700
Transportation & Utilities	300	0	-10	-10	0	200	-100	133,900
Financial Activities	3,200	0	-20	-10	0	3,200	0	51,600
Education and Health Services	10,700	-300	-10	60	0	10,400	-300	211,600
Leisure & Hospitality	-6,100	-100	-30	-20	0	-6,200	-100	-10,800
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	-14,300	-100	-30	-80	0	-14,600	-300	-75,800
Total Government	7,300	-200	-80	-200	-100	6,700	-600	163,500
Federal	-9,000	-9,000	0	0	0	-18,000	-9,000	-100,000
State	-19,200	0	0	-10	0	-19,200	0	-322,600
Local	16,000	-200	-80	-190	-100	15,400	-600	245,500
Change from one year ago January 2003								
Civilian Labor Force*	100	500	0	1,000	300	2,000	1,800	60,200
Employed	1,800	800	200	1,100	400	4,300	2,500	78,700
Unemployed	-1,700	-300	-100	-100	-100	-2,300	-600	-18,500
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.7%	-0.6%	-1.2%	-0.6%	-1.0%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.7%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.8%
Total Nonfarm	-2,600	-400	-100	300	0	-2,700	-100	30,600
Total Private	-2,100	-400	-200	200	100	-2,400	-300	34,400
Goods Producing	-1,400	-600	-200	-100	100	-2,200	-800	-7,500
Service Producing	-1,200	200	100	400	0	-500	700	38,100
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-400	-100	0	0	0	-500	-100	4,300
Manufacturing	-1,000	-500	-200	-100	0	-1,700	-700	-11,800
Trade	-17,800	-100	0	0	0	-17,900	-100	-69,600
Transportation & Utilities	200	-100	0	0	0	0	-200	132,400
Financial Activities	3,400	100	0	0	0	3,500	100	57,000
Education and Health Services	10,700	0	0	100	0	10,800	100	217,400
Leisure & Hospitality	-6,200	200	0	100	0	-5,900	300	-1,400
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	-12,300	200	100	100	0	-11,900	400	-32,400
Total Government	6,900	0	100	200	-100	7,100	200	174,900
Federal	-8,800	-8,800	0	0	0	-17,600	-8,800	-102,000
State	-18,700	0	0	0	0	-18,600	100	-309,000
Local	16,000	0	100	200	-100	16,200	200	245,900

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted.
 Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. N/A=VS data is benchmarked to 3/2002

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://www.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI>

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